

with IWCC has additional meaning for Dan, as he took his police academy training at Iowa Western in 1982. Dan very much looks forward to continuing to assist students as they continue their education in the fall and beyond.

Dan's commitment to others through his service and advocacy deserves special recognition. It is my pleasure to honor Dan Flores as Iowan of the Week.

RETIREMENT OF BERNARD A. "BUD" BARTON, JR., THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 31, 2021*

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bernard A. "Bud" Barton, Jr. on his retirement from the Library of Congress and to thank him for nearly three decades of dedicated public service.

Mr. Barton has spent his career at the intersection of knowledge and technology. While serving as the deputy chief information officer for the North Carolina National Guard. Mr. Barton designed the agency's disaster recovery and continuity of operations capabilities, ensuring the Guard lived up to its "Always Ready" motto. As chief information officer for the Defense Technical Information Center, Mr. Barton ensured that the Department of Defense's largest library had the IT infrastructure necessary to fuse science and technology data and reliably deliver the knowledge needed to develop the next generation of technologies to support our Warfighters and help assure national security.

In 2015, Mr. Barton took on what *Fortune Magazine* labeled as possibly the hardest job in tech, serving as the Chief Information Officer for the Library of Congress. Mr. Barton has ably guided the nation's oldest federal cultural institution through a complete technological overhaul. Mr. Barton oversaw the centralization of Library technology activities; fostered the creation of an agency-wide digital strategy; and marshalled efforts to optimize and modernize the Library's IT infrastructure and critical IT business systems. Under his leadership, the Library completed a three-year data center transformation, embracing the best of traditional IT services and the Cloud to ensure a stable, flexible, scalable foundation for the future. He also completely revamped IT security, and successfully addressed more than 100 major technology recommendations identified by Congress and the GAO.

Through it all, Mr. Barton has been a transparent, proactive, and enthusiastic partner to Members of Congress, our staff and our constituents.

The impact of these changes cannot be overstated. As the world's largest library and home of both the Congressional Research Service and the U.S. Copyright Office, the Library of Congress stands as a beacon of knowledge and a source of creativity. Mr. Barton leaves the Library a stronger, more digitally enabled institution that is better prepared than ever to serve the needs of Congress, researchers, and all Americans.

Please join me in wishing Mr. Barton a well-deserved retirement after a lifetime of faithful public service.

2021 BUS TOUR

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 31, 2021*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I always look forward to the annual bus tour of South Carolina's Second Congressional District. Our bus tour began with a meeting with U of SC Aiken Chancellor Daniel Heimermann at the Savannah River National Laboratory led by Dr. Vahid Majidi and regional academia partners. Then we headed to Woods Farm Market in Aiken, owned by Pamela Johnson Ely, where new jobs have been developed.

The next stop was the Aiken Rotary Club under the leadership of President Mallory Holley and then the Central States Manufacturing facility in Graniteville for a wonderful tour led by General Manager Rick Neely. Our team also stopped by Cavalier's Coffee, a local small business just developed by David Brannon with plans to add jobs in North Augusta. We ended our day at beautiful Aiken State Park hearing from the wonderful folks at South Carolina Parks, Recreation, and Tourism hosted by Paul Mcformack, Joy Raintree, Aaron Chavous, James Studdard, Samantha Queen, Justin Hancock, Steve Beckham, Mary Ann Keisler, and Mark van der Linden.

Day two began with a townhall hosted by the Irmo Chamber of Commerce, which is capably led by Kerry Powers. I appreciated the chance for open and honest conversations about issues currently facing our country. Then, the team received a tour of the new Piney Woods Elementary School in Chapin under the leadership of Principal Cassy Paschal. We also toured the state-of-the-art UPS Air Hub facility at Columbia Metropolitan Airport in West Columbia with Kim Barbary. She is the Operations Training Manager of an impressive facility with great staff producing over 2,000 jobs. I was grateful to co-author with State Senator Kay Patterson the legislation to incentivize UPS to locate in Lexington County.

Day three started with a tour of the beautiful Riverbanks Zoo and Garden in Columbia, greeted by President and CEO Tommy Stringfellow. Next, we stopped at TerraStride and met with Founder and CEO Lanford Holloway, whose leadership has made TerraStride one of the fastest growing tech companies in South Carolina. Afterwards was a visit to Fort Jackson for a briefing on the Army Combat Fitness Test, led by Brigadier General Patrick R. Michaelis. We ended day three with a visit to Thermal Technologies in Blythewood, where founder Jim Lentz has revolutionized the fruit ripening industry, particularly for bananas.

On the final day of the bus tour, I stopped at the world-class Government Training Institute in Barnwell, led by President Von Bolin. Then, we made our way to Tommy Shealy's restaurant, Shealy's Bar-B-Que, a tradition that I look forward to every year. Our bus tour concluded with a warm welcome from Orangeburg Mayor Pro-Tem Liz Zimmerman Keitt, and a tour of the new Orangeburg VA Clinic and adjacent Orangeburg Recreation Center. It was inspiring to see the great work by Gregg Robinson and his team at Orangeburg County Development Commission to attract new business to South Carolina. The legisla-

tive achievements of Senator TIM SCOTT, with President Donald Trump, has led to building opportunity zones specifically designed to create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

HONORING DR. BLANCA CAVAZOS AS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE TAFT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 31, 2021*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Blanca Cavazos after nearly four decades of public service to our community. Blanca is stepping down as the Superintendent of the Taft Union High School District after dedicating 39 years of combined service to the Kern High School District, Kern County Superintendent of Schools, and most recently, the Taft Union High School District.

Blanca's life exemplifies what it means to achieve the American Dream. Born in Mexico to farmworker parents, Blanca's family moved to Arvin, California when she was three years old. After graduating high school, Blanca enrolled in California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB), where she earned her bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and earned two master's degrees: one in Bilingual Cross-Cultural Education and one in Educational Administration.

In 1997, Blanca served Arvin High School—her alma mater—as the school's first woman and minority principal, beginning her career as a trailblazer in the field of education. She led the school to great success by doubling the number of Advanced Placement courses offered to students, building up the school's We the People civics education program, and providing educational trainings to parents on high school graduation requirements and the college application process. In 2011, she brought her talent to bear to the Task Force Administrator position at the Kern High School District and later as the Chief Instructional Officer for the Kern County Superintendent of Schools. In 2013, she received her doctorate in education from Fresno State University and was appointed to the role of Superintendent of the Taft Union High School District, where she has selflessly served over the past eight years as the district's first woman superintendent.

Throughout her life, Blanca has broken many barriers and gone above and beyond for her students, colleagues, and community. Bakersfield Life Magazine showcased her service in multiple editions, including "Ladies Who Lead Schools" and "Thirteen People to Watch." In addition to her work, Blanca has spent time serving on the Finance Committee, Audit Committee, and State Board of Directors for the Association of California School Administrators. In 2019, she received the Administrator of the Year Award from the Association of California School Administrators and in 2020, she was inducted to the CSUB Alumni Hall of Fame.

Blanca's commitment to our community is undeniable. She has touched the lives of many, watching her students grow into the